

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 47 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

D1515 E27 36. (Amended) A combination of a joining element and a part, said part defining a bore, said bore having a closed inner end, an open outer end, and a cylindrical inner surface, said inner surface having a first cylindrical portion adjacent to said closed inner end, and a second cylindrical portion disposed between said first cylindrical portion and said open outer end, said second cylindrical portion having a diameter larger than said first cylindrical portion, and

said joining element comprising a body member disposed in said bore, said body member having a first and second portion, said first body portion having a diameter about equal to said first cylindrical portion, and a second body portion having a diameter about equal to said second cylindrical portion, said first body portion having an end defining a first anchor point and comprising a first thermoplastic material adjacent to said first anchor point, and said second body portion defining a second anchor point adjacent to said first body portion, and comprising a second thermoplastic material adjacent to said second anchor point,

said body member being responsive to an application of pressure and of energy so as to form respective macroscopic cavities in said part at said first and second anchor points,

said thermoplastic materials at said first and second anchor points being platicizable by said application of energy and pressure to flow into said respective macroscopic anchor cavities in said part.

Sub E2 37. (Amended) A combination of a joining element and a part, said part defining a bore having a closed inner end and an open outer end, and

said joining element comprising an elongated body member disposed in said bore, said body member having a thermoplastic material at a first anchor point at a tip adjacent to said closed inner end, and

D:1 a head portion on said body member, said head portion disposed at said open outer end,

said thermoplastic material at said first anchor point being responsive to an application of pressure to said head portion and energy to said anchor point so as to form a macroscopic anchor cavity in said part at said closed inner end, and said thermoplastic material being plasticizable by said application of pressure and energy so as to flow into said macroscopic cavity, and thereby to form a macroscopic anchor connection to secure said joining element to said part.

38. (Amended) A joining element according to claim 37 wherein said body is formed as an elongated pin and includes a second anchor point of thermoplastic material spaced from said first anchor point.

D2 Sub E2 41. (Amended) A joining element according to claim 40 wherein said thermoplastic material at said anchoring points is plasticizable at a lower temperature at said anchor points than at other portions of said joining element.

D3 Sub E2 44. (Amended) A joining element according to claim 38 wherein said tip of said element is shaped with a point.

D3 500  
E2-9

45. (Amended) A joining element according to claim 38 wherein said tip of said element is flat or concave.

Please add new claims 48-56 as follows:

D4 500  
G7

48. (New) A joining element for attachment in a bore having a closed inner end in a part comprising a porous material, said joining element comprising:  
a body having a tip defining a first preselected anchoring point, said body defining a second preselected anchoring point spaced from said first anchoring point, said body comprising a first thermoplastic material at said first anchoring point and a second thermoplastic material at said second anchoring point, said body having a cross-sectional area at said second anchoring point that is larger than a cross-sectional area at said first anchoring point, said thermoplastic materials at said first and second anchoring points being plasticizable by an application of energy and pressure.

49. (New) A joining element for attachment in a bore having a closed inner end in a part comprising a porous material, said joining element comprising:  
a body having a tip defining a first preselected anchoring point and further having a thermoplastic material at said first anchoring point, and at least part of the remainder of the body being from a different material than said thermoplastic material, and the body having an enlarged portion forming a head at an end of the body opposite of the tip, said thermoplastic material at said first anchoring point being plasticizable by an application of energy and pressure.

D4  
50. (New) A joining element according to claim 49 wherein said body is formed as an elongated pin and includes a second anchoring point of thermoplastic material spaced from said first anchoring point.

SUB E  
51. (New) A joining element according to claim 50 and including an internally threaded opening for receiving an attachment.

52. (New) A joining element according to claim 49 wherein said thermoplastic material at said anchoring points is plasticizable at a lower temperature at said anchoring points than at other portions of said joining element.

53. (New) A joining element according to claim 50 wherein said joining element further comprises a thermosetting material at points other than at said anchoring points.

54. (New) A joining element according to claim 50 wherein said thermoplastic material at said anchoring points includes metal particles incorporated in said thermoplastic material.

SUB E  
55. (New) A joining element according to claim 49 wherein said tip of said element is shaped as a point.

56. (New) A joining element according to claim 49 wherein said tip of said element is flat or concave.

D4 57. (New) A joining element according to claim 49 wherein said thermoplastic material is selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polycarbonate, polyester carbonate, acrylonitrilebutadienestyrene, styreneacrylonitrile, polymethylmethacrylate, polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene, polypropylene and polystyrene.

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